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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA 96799

TOGIOLA T.A. TULAFONO
GOVERNOR

AITOFELE T.F. SUNIA
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Serial No. 0979

TELEPHONE (684) 633-4116
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September 29, 2003

RECEIVED

OCT - 2 2003

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445—12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20544

Re: Universal Service Support Certification
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch

Enclosed for filing is the High Cost Universal Service Support Certification required in conjunction with CC Docket No. 96-45 executed by Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono in his capacity as Telecommunications Regulatory Commissioner for American Samoa.

Given our remote location in the South Pacific and only two outgoing mail flights per week, it is unlikely that the original certification will arrive prior to the October 1st filing deadline, which concerns me. Consequently, I am kindly requesting that a facsimile copy of the certificate be accepted as compliance with timely filing subject to and pending receipt of the original certification which will be transmitted by the fastest available means

The facsimile copy of the certification is being presented for filing by our Washington, D.C. representative, Mrs. Janice Lipsen. The original certification will also be directed to Mrs. Lipsen for subsequent delivery to you for recording.

A facsimile copy and a duplicate original are being directed to Ms. Irene Flannery of Universal Service Administrative Company for filing.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
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Your understanding and indulgence is truly appreciated as is your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. W. Kappel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

HENRY W. KAPPEL
Legal Counsel

Encl.

Cc. Universal Service Administrative Company
(Attn: Irene Flannery)
Aleki Sene, Executive Director, ASTCA
Elvis Patea, Esq., Legal Counsel, ASTCA



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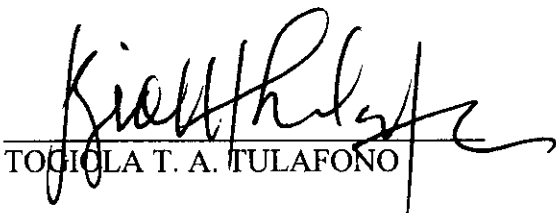
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TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY COMMISSIONER

CERTIFICATION BY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

I, Togiola T A Tulafono, hereby certify that I am the Governor of American Samoa, and that I am authorized to execute this certification as the Telecommunications Regulatory Commissioner of the Territory of American Samoa.

Furthermore, with reference to CC Docket No. 96-45, I hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, that all federal high cost support received by the American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (Study Area Code 673900) will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.


TOGIOLA T. A. TULAFONO

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of September, 2003.


Notary Public

My Commission expires: 12/31

